(b) whether it is a fact that only two doctors are available on a day in this dispensary;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of doctors' as per the norm, that should be present on a day in that dispensary; and

(e) the action Government propose to take to ensure that adequate number of doctors are present in the dispensary so that beneficiaries are not forced to wait for long period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Six doctors including the CMO In-charge have been posted at CGHS dispensary No. 74, B-Block, Janakpuri.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Normally, adequate number of doctors are present on duty except when doctors take leave, etc. due to various exigencies. One of the doctors of this dispensary is put on emergency duty on rotational basis to the nearby CGHS dispensary at Tilak Nagar which functions round the clock for emergency services also for the convenience of the beneficiaries.

(d) and (e) No norms have been fixed regarding the number of doctors required to be present on a day in any CGHS dispensary. However, doctors are posted in accordance with the posts sanctioned for the dispensary considering the daily attendance to ensure the smooth functioning of the dispensary.

Guidelines for Indenting of Medicines

338. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of extant guidelines regarding indenting of medicines prescribed by specialists in CGHS dispensaries;

(b) whether the doctors in the dispensaries can give substitutes of even scheduled / life saving drugs prescribed by specialists;

(c) if so, the details in this regard;

(d) whether Macoxplus can be substituted with Rcinex; if so, the details of the constituents of the two medicines; and

(e) if not, the action taken to stop this practice so that the life of beneficiaries is not jeopardised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The guidelines to be followed by CGHS dispensaries for indenting medicines prescribed by specialists is as under:—

The beneficiary brings the prescription of the specialist to the Medical Officer in the dispensary for supply of medicines. The medicines which are available in the dispensary are given to the beneficiary. Those medicines which are not available in the dispensary are marked for indent for purchasing the same through the CGHS authorized local chemist and on receipt of the same, the medicines are supplied to the beneficiaries generally on the next working day. For urgent and life saving drugs, authority slips are issued to the beneficiaries to enable them procure the same directly from the authorised local chemist without making any payment.

(b) and (c) The drugs available in the dispensary with different brand name but with the same constituents are given to the beneficiaries. The question of giving substitute medicines to the beneficiaries does not arise.

(d) Yes Sir, the constituents are as under:—

Name of medicine	Constituents
Macoxplus	Fifampicin—450Mg / 600Mg
	Isomazide—300 Mg
Rcinex	-do-

(e) The question does not arise since the ingredients / constituents of both the drugs mentioned in (d) above are the same and have similar action / effect.

Achievement under Blindness Control Programme

339. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of blind persons (men, women and children) in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) the number of blind persons increased / decreased during the last five years, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) the funds allocated by Government for Blindness Control Programme aimed at bringing the prevalence down to 0.3 per cent by 2000 AD; and